

Sustainable Eco-Friendly Vegan Bioleather

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Abstract: *Most leather produced across the globe is made from the skins of a variety of animals like cattle, sheep, tiger, goats, snakes, fish, leopard and many others. These animals are hunted and killed specifically for their skins. Extensive rearing of livestock can cause severe environmental impacts such as deforestation, water and land overuse. The Leather industry in India accounts for around 12.9% of the world's leather production of hides/skins and handles a robust annual production of about 3 bn sq. ft. of leather. This gave us the first motivation to work on this aspect. It was decided to work and find an alternative to produce leather which can remove slaughtering of animals and is a low cost process. This project deals with the development of common used material i.e. Leather using Biomaterials like Medusomyces gisevii (Kombucha) and Gossypium (Cotton). Cotton is used as a composite material to infuse with the base material made from Kombucha scoby. This project was conducted at Research Innovation Incubation Design Laboratory without any high end biological equipment for a period of 1 year. It was observed that the composite material was less brittle and more flexible than a normal material made of only Kombucha scoby.*

Keywords: Composite, Sustainable, Eco-Friendly, Biomaterial, Kombucha, Low Cost

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